

SUGAR and PLANTATION NEWS

MARKET WAITS ON POLITICAL MOVES

Sugar Price Is Football of Speculative Interests In New York

The price of raw sugar in New York was a football for the speculatively inclined, according to the weekly market report of a local sugar house from its New York correspondent for the week ending May 25. This correspondent reports rumors in New York that the government may arrange to purchase all raw sugar for both the United States and its Allies. The report for the week follows:

"For all of the week which has elapsed since our last report this market has continued to respond to the political situation. To be, or not to be, that is the question, and hesitation has characterized all dealings. Whether the ideas of the house or those of the senate are going to prevail will be for some time in doubt, and meanwhile the price of sugar a football for the speculatively inclined.

"It is rumored around that refiners will not oppose a consumption tax on all sugar provided the present schedule of duties remains undisturbed.

Government May Purchase

"There is food for thought in the opinion expressed today in certain circles that the federal government may arrange to buy the raws for both the United States and the Allies, turning the same over to refiners for manufacture into granulated on a fixed margin thus stabilizing the industry.

"Cuba continues to turn out sugar in large quantities and, as there is still an unusually large number of centrals in operation, may yet attain the dimensions of last year's crop.

"Buyers here are quite indifferent to the large supplies on hand and sellers appear to be willing to make the best of a bad situation by accepting lower prices.

"Not much sugar, however, is offered even at 4 15-16c C. & F. and buyers' ideas are 4 3-4 to 4 7-8c May shipment, according to the urgency of their requirements.

Buyers Are Indifferent

"Except a sale today of 10,000 bags Cuba to an operator at 4 15-16c C. & F. June shipment there has been nothing doing in the market. Refiners might pay 4 7-8c C. & F. for June shipment.

"Figures from Cuba for the week ending May 19 (six ports only) are:

	Himely	Gums
	Tons.	Tons.
Receipts	71,528	71,877
Exports	81,005	83,088
Stocks	590,883	597,091
Exports North America	22,367	41,728
Exports New Orleans and so forth	34,000	21,550
Exports to Europe	13,000	14,410

"Rains have interrupted operations in the Oriente Province but elsewhere grinding has proceeded unhindered by the weather. Operations on the exchange have been entirely in the hands of professionals and show more or less signs of manipulation.

Moderate Demand for Refined

"Refined sugar demand has been very moderate and almost entirely hand to mouth. The trade is waiting for a readjustment in prices more in keeping with the price of raw sugar.

"Arbuckle's is the only refinery believed to be in position to fill orders promptly. They are quoting 8c basis but getting no business. The American is still quoting 7 1/2c, but restricting sales. Howell is, like Warner and Federal, working on old orders and slowly catching up, but not yet anxious enough to quote under 8c basis.

"There are reports of sales of refined for export at declining prices down to 6.80c basis, net cash in bond, from second hands, and refiners inclined to accept orders at about the 7c basis. Sales to England at 6.50c net cash in bond are said to have been made lately up to 20,000 tons.

WAIMEA HOSPITAL GETS ELECTRIC LIGHT SYSTEM

An electric light system has been installed in Waimaea Hospital, the institution that serves both Waimaea and Kekaha plantations. The hospital is thoroughly equipped with all modern apparatus and throughout is a model institution for the care and attention of the employees of the nearby plantations.

The Garden Island of Lihue in reporting the installation of the new lighting system says:

"The idea was originally planned by the late Mrs. S. D. Heapy and at her death, Mrs. T. Brandt, Mrs. E. A. Knudsen, Mrs. W. K. Shultz and Mrs. Wm. Danford took the matter in hand and raised the required amount for the plant itself and the Kekaha Plantation installed it."

KONA DEVELOPMENT CROP

Yellow Caledonia is showing up very well at Kona Development Company plantation. From the harvest so far this year juices have been secured that show a juice content for Yellow Caledonia at Kona that is probably better than the same for this variety at any other place in the Islands. The results secured from the Yellow Caledonia harvested this year at Kona compare favorably with the juice content of Lahaina or other plantations on Hawaii.

Paris Card System Cuts By One Third Demand For Sugar

(Associated Press Correspondence)

PARIS, May 16.—The demand for sugar in Paris has fallen to one-third of what it was before the card system was adopted. Advocates of the system conclude from this result that the cards have imposed frugality. They ask for the extension of the system to meat, bread, coal and gasoline.

It is asserted, however, that this reduced demand for sugar is not necessarily due to decreased consumption.

Most housewives, anticipating the introduction of cards, had laid in a supply that will last another month or more.

A great many retail dealers, grocers, bakers, and butchers are in favor of the card system in preference to meat, flour and other restrictions that disturb the routine of business. They contend that it is the only effective means of affecting real and substantial economies. Meatless days they say would result in considerable wastage through the disorganization of shipping during the heated season.

HAWAII AND MAUI NEED RAIN FOR CANE CROPS

The following summary of weather and crop conditions for the week ending June 2 is issued by the local weather bureau:

On Hawaii and Maui the rainfall during the week was exceptionally light, the result of scattered, local showers. All reports indicate that a good general rain is needed. In the Kohala district of Hawaii crops are suffering from the drought. On Oahu and Kauai the rainfall was abundant, and crops are doing well. By islands, the average rainfall for the weeks was as follows: Hawaii, 0.40 inch; Maui, 0.30 inch; Oahu, 2.45 inches; Kauai, 1.95 inches.

Punahele Ranch, Hawaii—Very light showers on three dates; total only 0.14 inch. Rain much needed, especially for lower pastures.

Niuli, Hawaii—Rain badly needed; crops at a standstill throughout this district.

Honouliuli, Hawaii—Occasional showers during the week, mostly light. Crops doing well.

Ponahawai, Hawaii—All crops doing well, but more rain is needed.

Glenwood Experiment Station, Hawaii—Weather conditions have been very favorable. There has been abundant rainfall, and the vegetable gardens and other field plantings are, as a general rule, in good condition.

Drake Experiment Station, Maui—Dry, warm, and rather windy weather characterized the week. Only 0.03 inch of rain fell and more is needed. All crops are doing well. The pineapple crop is fast approaching maturity.

Hecia, Oahu—Hot, muggy weather on the twenty-sixth, twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth. Thunder and lightning at 9 p. m. of the thirtieth.

HAVANA DOCK STRIKE IS ENDED; CROP NEAR CLOSE

SANTIAGO DE LAS VEGAS, Cuba, May 24.—(Cable to Facts About Sugar) The strike of dock laborers which seriously tied up traffic at the port of Havana and adversely affected sugar shipments all of the week, has been settled. The laborers are now back at work again.

Many factories, especially in the western provinces, are rapidly finishing their crops and will shortly close down. Although scattered rains are reported from various points, the drought in the west still continues.

Such rains as have fallen have not interfered with the harvest, which is still progressing favorably and the centrals in many instances are rapidly catching up with their earlier estimates.

UTAH CAPITALISTS PLAN PLANTATION IN PANAMA

Plans for an extensive project for sugar cane growing on a large scale in Panama and the possible later erection of a sugar factory there, operated by American capital, are reported in a Salt Lake despatch to Facts About Sugar. The account reports the filing of articles of incorporation for the Pan-American Sugar Company backed by a group of capitalists of Utah, headed by Governor William Spry, who intend to raise several hundred thousand dollars for the enterprise. The company is capitalized at \$1,000,000 and holds some 20,000 acres of land about twenty miles from Colon, of which 4000 acres are cleared and ready for cultivation. Cane has been successfully grown on this tract before.

TOO MUCH SPEED

A locomotive belonging to Lihue plantation is lying on its side in the ditch just back of the Fairview Hotel as a result of the engineer trying to get up too much speed on an empty engine. That both the engineer and fireman were not killed is a miracle, as the engine after jumping the track and running along the ties for quite a way, jumped over the bank through the fence and landed on its side. The Garden Island.

PROPAGATION of cane seedlings at sub-stations of the sugar planters' experiment station in various parts of the Islands is one of the more important activities of the station staff. These seedling experiments are conducted with the maximum of care and diligent attention. Nursing the "baby cane" is an exacting job that requires constant watching. Below is shown a view of the seedling nursery of the experiment station in Hilo. The illustration gives a good idea of the tray and sunlight protection arrangements used when the fuzz from the ripe tassels is first planted by spreading a layer over small boxes of rich soil.



HALF OF ISLAND CROP IS SHIPPED

Sugar Shipments To June First Are Only Slightly Behind Those of Last Year

Practically half of the 1917 crop of the fifty-two Hawaiian sugar plantations had been shipped to market by the first of June. Of the estimated crop of 640,840 tons for the 1917 grinding season, 316,196 tons had been shipped from island ports to San Francisco or Atlantic ports by that date. Comparative figures, however, show that the shipments to date are slightly behind those of last year. Though the total of sugar shipped is only slightly under the total shipped on the same date last year, the 1917 crop will be a large one, according to careful estimates. The percentage of sugar shipped to date this year falls under that of last year.

Factors Company Figures

Figures furnished by A. M. Nowell, manager for the Sugar Factors' Company, show that the thirty-five plantations shipping through this company had consigned to the mainland, up to June 1, sugar cargoes totalling 258,860 tons out of an estimated crop for these plantations of 528,281 tons. This is forty-nine per cent of the estimated crop.

Last year at June 1, the Sugar Factors' Company plantations had shipped 261,784 tons out of a crop that amounted to 476,781 tons, or fifty-five per cent.

Similar comparisons for the entire Hawaiian crop harvested from the fifty-two plantations show the same relative percentages and results—that, though the shipments thus far equal those of last year, a slightly smaller per cent of the total crop than last year has been sent to market.

The total shipments of sugar from Hawaii to the mainland are just a shade under those of last year at June 1—exactly 263 tons.

Forty-nine Per Cent Out

By June 1, 1916, there had been shipped 316,459 tons, or 54.3 per cent of the crop out of a 582,281 tons.

The 316,196 tons shipped by June 1 this year constitute forty-nine per cent of the estimated Hawaiian crop of 640,840 tons.

The estimate of 640,840 tons represents figures compiled by A. M. Nowell as of May 1 for the thirty-five plantations of the Sugar Factors' Company. Revised estimates as of May 1 for the remaining seventeen plantations are not yet available and the estimates used for these companies are as of January 1.

Little difference in the total estimate for the Islands is expected from the revision of these estimates, though individual plantations may vary, as the revision for the Sugar Factors' Company plantations and three others changed the total by only 920 tons, increasing the total estimate by that amount.

ARGENTINE SUGAR CROP IS EVEN SMALLER THIS YEAR

Official statistics state that the final output of the 1916-17 sugar crop in Argentina was 84,000 tons. The effect of weather on cane crops may be seen from the output of this country says Willett & Gray in commenting on the Argentine comparative figures for the Argentine 1916-17 84,000 tons; 1915 16 14,000 tons; 1914 15 33,000 tons. These decreases occurred during years of increasing world values for sugar.

Record and Forecast of Hawaiian Sugar Crops As of Uneven Dates To June 1, 1917

The Hawaiian sugar plantation fiscal year is from October 1 to September 30.

Forty-four plantations in the Hawaiian Islands have mills. In addition there are seven independent cane planters whose cane is ground on shares, who do business on such a large scale that their share of sugar is listed separately. Pacific Sugar Mill's tonnage shipped is included in the figures for Honolulu. Honolulu Plantation's tonnage is refined sugar.

Plantations without mills are indicated in this table by an asterisk (*).

Statistics are of tons of 2000 pounds.

Estimates for the 1917 crop marked with a † are as of January 1, 1917.

PLANTATION.	Crop 1916 Tons of Sugar Shipped.	Crop 1917 Tons of Sugar Estimated as of May 1, 1917.	Crop 1917 Tons of Sugar Shipped to June 1, 1917.
HAWAII—			
Olaia Sugar Co., Ltd.	21,564	30,000	12,242
Waikeke Mill Co.	12,707	15,000	5,401
Hilo Sugar Co.	16,450	15,000	8,780
Hawaii Mill Co., Ltd.	1,801	3,500	1,737
Omoo Sugar Co.	18,681	21,000	10,141
Popeo Sugar Co.	9,327	10,500	5,190
Honoum Sugar Co.	6,581	8,500	5,100
Hakala Plantation Co.	15,951	19,000	8,434
Lupahoe Sugar Co.	10,125	14,500	7,459
Honohu Sugar Co.	4,995	6,500	2,755
Kukui Plantation Co.	3,736	4,000	1,925
Hakala Mill Co.	7,631	11,000	4,673
Panahau Sugar Plantation Co.	7,859	10,000	5,493
Honohu Sugar Co.	7,293	8,700	8,645
Pacific Sugar Mill	5,556	7,800
Niuli Mill and Plantation	2,110	3,000
Halawa Plantation	1,705	3,000	1,292
Kohala Sugar Co.	4,148	6,300	2,261
Union Mill Co.	2,131	3,000	1,347
Hawi Mill and Plantation	6,229	8,400	3,362
Punka Plantation	963	1,000	400
Kona Development Co., Ltd.	144	5,000	2,679
Hutchinson Sugar Plantation Co.	9,170	8,000	2,517
Hawaiian Agricultural Co.	14,600	15,000	3,882
Total	190,817	236,600	107,141
MAUI—			
Pioneer Mill Co., Ltd.	32,364	33,000	17,235
Olowalu Co.	1,850	1,850	953
Wailuku Sugar Co.	14,651	16,500	8,741
Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Co.	58,815	55,500	34,027
Maui Agricultural Co.	33,649	36,500	18,558
Kula Plantation Co., Ltd.	6,721	6,500	2,998
Kipahulu Sugar Co.	840	2,500	1,046
Total	148,890	152,350	83,078
OAHU—			
Honolulu Plantation Co.	20,586	19,000	12,625
Onuh Sugar Co., Ltd.	33,555	35,000	13,030
Ewa Plantation Co.	31,752	33,500	14,844
Hakala Sugar Co., Ltd.	793	900	876
Waimanalo Co.	4,626	5,000	1,934
Waimanalo Agricultural Co., Ltd.	39,959	30,400	15,847
Kahala Plantation Co.	4,721	7,500	4,712
Kala Plantation	3,941	1,900	677
Koala Agricultural Co., Ltd.	971	520	566
Waimanalo Sugar Co.	5,142	4,000	1,400
Total	134,046	137,920	66,011
KAUAI—			
Lihue Plantation Co., Ltd.	18,877	21,250	11,720
Grove Farm Plantation	4,758	5,750	2,173
Koloa Sugar Company, The	7,930	9,500	4,959
McBryde Sugar Co., Ltd.	15,840	10,500	7,980
Hawaiian Sugar Co.	23,101	22,000	9,426
Gray & Robinson	4,550	4,500	2,863
Waiman Sugar Mill Co., The	1,480	1,900	1,264
Kekaha Sugar Co., Ltd.	16,987	16,500	10,201
Estate V. Knudsen	902	900	531
Kilauea Sugar Plantation Co.	5,210	5,570	2,637
Mahee Sugar Co.	9,087	12,500	7,112
Total	107,928	114,870	59,966
TOTALS			
HAWAII	190,817	236,600	107,141
MAUI	148,890	152,350	83,078
OAHU	134,046	137,920	66,011
KAUAI	107,928	114,870	59,966
Totals	582,281	640,840	316,196

SHORTAGE IN FRANCE

The sugar supply is so short in France that the government has issued a decree that all cake bakeries must be closed during June and July, and cho-

late manufacturers and confectioners have had their production decreased. Winter grain crops are not as favorable as could be desired, and beet sowings may therefore be increased somewhat.—Willett & Gray.

WAR BASIS FOR SUGAR IS URGED

Government Regulation of Export And Private Control of Use Is Advocated

Urging government and private regulation of the use of sugar to prevent a shortage, the June number of The World's Work comments editorially on the possibility of sugar on a war basis as follows:

"We have heard so much of the Sugar Trust in recent years that most newspaper readers have probably had an idea that, in an international sense, it was a gigantic enterprise. Not until the European war, however, was American sugar an important commodity in the commerce of the world. We made much sugar for the home market, it is true, but we sent comparatively little of it abroad.

Dislocation of Market

"Rarely do statistics disclose such an abrupt dislocation in the world's market of an essential article of trade. In 1913, which was the last peace year, American refiners exported only 28,000 tons. In 1916, they sent abroad 203,885 tons.

"The housewife who has been complaining of the steady increase in the price of sugar will find the explanation in these figures. The American Sugar Refining Company now joins the Bethlehem Steel Company and the farmers of the Mississippi Valley as a beneficiary from war contracts.

"We need a map to understand the present sugar situation. All that is necessary is an outline of Europe with the present western and eastern battle fronts indicated in black type.

Teutons Sugar Producers

"Between those boundaries lie Germany and Austria-Hungary, and here, up to August, 1914, one-third of all the world's sugar was produced. From this source England, France, and the rest of Europe obtained the larger part of their supply—a supply which is now discontinued.

"The Allies not only import large quantities of sugar from the United States, but they are buying on a large scale the raw product of Cuba.

"This island supplies American refiners with one-half their raw sugar, consequently the Americans have to meet European competition in this market.

"The situation is especially unfortunate in that pure sugar is one of our most stimulating foods.

Here is a problem for the Food Commission.

"Every citizen can help solve it by refraining from hoarding unnecessarily large supplies of sugar. So many people have been buying it by the barrel that recently the stores in New York City have refused to sell more than ten pounds at a time to one customer.

"By government regulation of its export, and by private regulation of its consumption, the worst evils of a shortage can be avoided."

Millions Added To Plantation Assets During Fiscal Year

Sugar plantation companies of this Territory, the stock of which is listed in the Honolulu Stock and Bond Exchange, increased their assets nearly five millions of dollars during the year 1916. Twenty-one companies gained \$5,168,778.13 and two companies showed a decrease of \$234,232.62 making the increase for twenty-three companies \$4,934,445.51. Balance sheets published in the Manual of Hawaiian Securities make it possible to obtain these figures with a minimum of effort. These totals are today published in The Advertiser for the first time.

Two plantation companies increased assets more than a million each last year. Pioneer Mill \$1,192,551.55 and Oahu Sugar Company \$1,003,764.12, and two companies showed decrease in assets, Hawaiian Agricultural Company \$305,475.24 and Panahau \$128,737.35.

Indeed the two companies that gained more than a million in the year there were a number of other notable gains. Two of these were of more than half a million. Hawaiian Agricultural Company's gain was \$590,725.37 and Ewa \$574,962.68. Two other companies scored gains of \$400,000 or more. Kekaha gained \$404,285.83 and Wailuku \$444,155.86. One company, the Maui Agricultural Company, made an increase of \$330,829.23.

It thus appears that seven sugar companies scored gains of \$451,107.41 and only five companies failed to add to assets, showing decreases.

The gains of other companies were as follows: Haiku \$644,507, Hawaiian Sugar Company \$142,174.26, Honolulu \$87,389.59, Honoum \$366,752, Hutchinson Sugar Plantation Co. \$542,935, Kula \$47,717.00, Kula Sugar Co. \$49,067.32, Maui \$21,488.77, Oahu \$110,750.30, Oahu \$39,982.60, Pacific Sugar Mill \$51,888.41, Paia \$37,67.28, Popeo \$31,815.35, and Wailuku \$283.71.

TREND DOWNWARD IN SUGAR MARKET

Realization That Cuban Crop Is To Be Larger Than Expected Causes Decline

A steadily declining market for the second week in May and a generally dull market the following week with, however, an easier tendency, is reported by Willett & Gray in reviews of the New York sugar market situation. The week ending May 17 is described as follows in this market report:

"A steadily declining market in options on the sugar exchange since last week, which decline has been caused by realization that the Cuban crop would be much larger than expected by some of the Cuban experts, has naturally had an effect on the market for actual sugar, and quotations are lower.

"It is possible that conditions at Washington, where legislation has been introduced to curb speculation in foodstuffs, has also been a contributing cause to the decline in options.

Trend is Downward

"At the close last week, the market was weak, with sellers of Cubas at 6.37 cents.

"During the entire week, the trend was downward and sales were made at the following prices: 6.31 cents for May and June on Friday; 6.08 cents for prompt and for June on Monday; 6.02 cents for prompt and for June on Tuesday. On Wednesday June also sold for 6.02 cents and at the close this week the market is much easier with sales of June at 5.96 cents to operators.

Porto Ricans Sell Up

Porto Ricans, owing to possibility of additional duty on Cubas, which would benefit sugar from Porto Rico, have sold at relatively full-up prices. Several sales were made at 6.14 cents, but at the close of business is reported at 5.95 cents.

"Full-duty sugars, however, have sold at declining prices, last sales having been at 4 1/2 cents c. i. f. to New York and Canadian refiners.

"There has been some interest on the f. o. b. Cuba basis at 4.75 cents for June loading."

Sales Are Moderate